

U.S.S.N. 10/711,368

7

FGT 1942 PA

**REMARKS**

Applicants wish to thank the Examiner for considering the present application. In the Office Action dated May 23, 2005, claims 1-29 are pending in the application. Applicants respectfully request the Examiner for a reconsideration of the rejections.

Claim 25 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by *Aoshi* (JP 2000-285347). Applicants respectfully traverse.

Claim 25, among other things, includes transmitting the communication signal to a response signal through the communication network, at the response center, determining the nearest public service answering point in response to the vehicle position, and contacting the public service answering point as a native caller. Applicants respectfully submit that at least the last two steps are not taught or suggested in the *Aoshi* reference. The *Aoshi* reference makes no distinction between a native caller and a non-native caller. As mentioned in the specification of the present application, a native caller can be distinguished from a non-native caller by systems. Non-native callers get lower priority. The present application contacts the nearest public service answering point relative to the vehicle position and contacts the answering point as a native caller rather than a cellular-type caller, which has lower priority. The *Aoshi* reference makes no distinction and therefore Applicants respectfully submit that claim 25 is allowable.

Claims 1-9, 11-18, and 27-28 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over *Aoshi* in view of *Yanagi* (JP 08-287386). Applicants respectfully traverse.

Claim 1 is directed to a system that determines a front crash signal, a side crash signal, and determines an angular direction of force from the front crash signal and the side crash signal. The *Aoshi* reference is set forth for detecting an occupant and generating an occupant sensor status signal. Applicants admit that an occupant status is set forth in the *Aoshi* reference. The *Aoshi* reference, however, does not teach or suggest the use of a front crash signal and a side crash signal to determine the direction of force.

The Examiner cites the *Yanagi* reference for this teaching. Although the orientation is set forth at the top of page 4 of the machine translated application, no teaching or suggestion is provided for determining the angular direction of force in a front crash signal and a side crash signal.

Claims 2-9 depend from claim 1 and are also believed to be allowable for the same reasons set forth above.

U.S.S.N. 10/711,368

8

FGT 1942 PA

Claim 11 is an independent claim that teaches a vertical acceleration sensor generating a vertical acceleration signal. Claim 11 has been amended to recite that the controller determines the horizontal orientation of the vehicle relative to a road from the vertical acceleration sensor. Applicants have reviewed both references and can find no teaching or suggestion of a vertical acceleration sensor detecting the horizontal orientation of the vehicle. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to reconsider the rejection of claim 11 as well.

Claim 18 stands rejected under the above combination. However, the Examiner has provided no arguments relative to claim 18 in this section. Applicants therefore will address claim 18 with respect to the next rejection.

Claims 12-17 depend from claim 11 and are also believed to be allowable for the same reasons set forth above with respect to claim 11.

Claims 27 and 28 depend from claim 25. Claim 25 was rejected above and therefore Applicants respectfully submit that the *Aoshi* reference does not include several of the recitations in claim 25. Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 27 and 28 are also allowable for the same reasons set forth above.

Claims 10 and 18-24 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over *Aoshi* and *Yanagi* as applied to claim 1 above in further view of *Tognazzini* (5,914,675). Applicants admit that a vehicle ID memory 52a is illustrated in Fig. 1. However, the *Tognazzini* reference is directed to a system specifically designed for determining the location of a vehicle. There is no teaching or suggestion in the reference for providing the status of occupants therein. Neither the *Aoshi* reference nor the *Yanagi* reference teach or suggest the use of the vehicle identification number. Therefore, a controller that generates a communication signal that is communicated to a response signal through the communication network, said communication signal corresponding to said occupant sensor, status signal and the vehicle identification number is not taught or suggested. The *Tognazzini* reference is really a system for locating the device and/or the vehicle along with crash data therein. As is mentioned in the application, the device may be used for aircraft beacon-type systems. Thus, the *Tognazzini* reference is very different than the present notification systems. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to reconsider the rejection of claim 18.

Dependent claim 10 depends upon claim 1. Applicants respectfully believe that claim 10 is also allowable for the same reasons set forth above.

U.S.S.N. 10/711,368

9

FGT 1942 PA

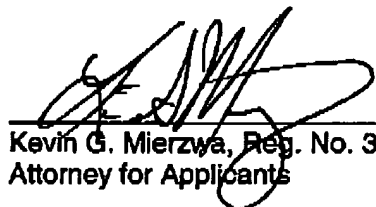
Likewise, claims 19-24 depend from claim 18 and are also believed to be allowable for the same reasons set forth above.

Claims 26 and 29 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over *Aoshi* in view of *Tognazzini*.

Claims 26 and 29 depend from claim 25. As mentioned above, the *Aoshi* reference fails to teach or suggest various aspects of claim 25. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to reconsider the rejection of claim 25 as well.

In light of the above remarks, Applicants submit that all objections are now overcome. Applicants respectfully submit that the application is now in condition for allowance and expeditious notice thereof is earnestly solicited. Should the Examiner have any further questions or comments please contact the undersigned. Please charge any fees required in the filing of this amendment to deposit account 06-1510.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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